

7 (a) disposing said proximal portion of said bifurcated prosthesis
8 [stent] in said blood vessel such that said first distal portion of said bifurcated
9 prosthesis [stent] extends into said first branched vessel;

10 (b) directing blood flow from said blood vessel into said first
11 branched vessel through said first distal portion of said bifurcated prosthesis
12 [stent];

13 (c) attaching said second prosthesis [stent] to said extension
14 portion of said bifurcated prosthesis [stent] such that said second prosthesis
15 [stent] extends into said second branched vessel; and

16 (d) directing blood flow from said blood vessel into said second
17 branched vessel through said second prosthesis [distal portion of said
18 bifurcated stent].

1 59. (Amended) A bifurcated prosthesis [stent] for use [in
2 juxtaposition] with an aneological bifurcation of a blood vessel into two
3 branched vessels comprising a bifurcated proximal [stent] portion adapted to
4 be disposed within said blood vessel [in juxtaposition with said bifurcation], a
5 distal [stent] portion adapted to extend across the bifurcation into one of the
6 branched vessels, and a separate distal [stent] segment joined to said proximal
7 portion and adapted to allow blood to flow from the proximal portion into the
8 other branched vessel.

1 63. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 55 further
2 comprising the step of:

3 (d) covering at least a portion of said proximal portion, said
4 first distal portion, and said second prosthesis [distal portion] with a graft
5 layer.

1 88. (Newly added) The bifurcated prosthesis of claim 59
2 wherein said proximal portion, distal portion, and distal segment each
3 comprise a stent and graft combination.

1 89. (Newly added) An apparatus for reinforcing a bifurcated
2 lumen comprising:

3 a first section, configured to be positioned within the lumen,
4 comprising:

5 an upper limb, configured to fit within the lumen upstream of
6 the bifurcation;

7 a first lower limb, configured to extend into a first leg of said
8 bifurcation when said first section is positioned in the lumen, and

9 a second lower limb, shorter than said first lower limb, and
10 configured so that when said first section is positioned in the lumen, said
11 second lower limb does not extend into a second leg of said bifurcation.

1 90. (Newly added) The apparatus of claim 89, further
2 comprising a second section configured to be positioned separately within the
3 lumen and joined to said second lower limb of the first section, effectively
4 extending said second lower limb into said second leg of said bifurcation.

REMARKS

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant hereby confirms the election of Group I, claims 55, 59, and 62-65, for further prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse. Claims 55, 59, and 62-65 were pending in this application as of the issuance of the Office Action. By this amendment, Applicant has added claims 88, 89 and 90, all of which are directed to the same invention as the elected claims.